

Exhibit A

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

IN RE: Case No. 05-44481  
DELPHI CORPORATION, et al, New York, New York  
Debtors. Wednesday, March 22, 2006  
2:18 p.m.

TRANSCRIPT OF SECTION 1102(a)(2) EVIDENTIARY HEARING  
BEFORE THE HONORABLE ROBERT D. DRAIN  
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

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1 (Proceedings commence at 2:19 p.m.)

2 THE COURT: Please be seated.

3 Okay. We're back on the record from yesterday in  
4 Delphi Corporation.

5 Mr. Butler, you have your next witness on rebuttal?

6 MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Your Honor, and good  
7 afternoon.

8 Your Honor at this time we'd like to present the --  
9 for cross-examination Keith S. Williams, whose expert report  
10 and declaration have been admitted as Exhibit Number 12.

11 MR. KURTZ: Your Honor, we filed a motion with  
12 respect to the witness. Would now be a good time to present  
13 it?

14 THE COURT: Yes. You're looking to strike his  
15 report?

16 MR. KURTZ: Correct. It's going to be argued by Mr.  
17 Baumstein?

18 MR. BAUMSTEIN: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Doug  
19 Baumstein here.

20 The motion is basically about a very simple  
21 prospect. During examinations of both Mr. Williams and Mr.  
22 Sheehan, a number of questions were asked about the current  
23 status of the negotiations at -- I guess at that point  
24 ongoing negotiations between Delphi and the unions, which, as  
25 everyone recognizes in this bankruptcy, would largely affect

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1 I think others involved in this matter will have an  
2 opportunity to weigh in after the fact and Appaloosa, as Mr.  
3 Rosenberg pointed out, will have that opportunity, too, as  
4 would Brandes, given its substantial resources.

5 I think with that, Your Honor, I'll step down and  
6 let Ms. Leonhard make her remarks. Again, I would propose  
7 granting the motion.

8 THE COURT: Okay.

9 **CLOSING ARGUMENT FOR THE U.S. TRUSTEE**

10 MS. LEONHARD: Good evening, Your Honor. Alicia  
11 Leonhard for the United States Trustee.

12 Last, but not least, Your Honor, the United States  
13 Trustee joins in the comments and the arguments of the  
14 objectors and requests that the Court deny the motion. Thank  
15 you very much.

16 THE COURT: Okay. All right. I'll take a five-  
17 minute break and then I'll be back. Well, I'll be back at  
18 6:15.

19 (Recess taken at 6:01 p.m.)

20 THE COURT: Please be seated.

21 I have in front of me a motion by Appaloosa  
22 Management, LP, a substantial shareholder of the parent  
23 Delphi entity, for the appointment of an official committee  
24 of equity security-holders under Section 1102(a)(2) of the  
25 Bankruptcy Code.

1           The motion is opposed by the debtors, the Official  
2           Unsecured Creditors' Committee, the agent for the pre-  
3           petition lenders, and the United States Trustee.

4           It has been joined in by another large and  
5           sophisticated management company, Brandes, which unlike  
6           Appaloosa, was a pre-petition holder of the debtor's equity  
7           interests and represents to the Court that it has, under  
8           management with authority to vote, again, a substantial stake  
9           in the debtor's equity interests. I believe, if you add the  
10          two of them together, they own or control approximately  
11          fifteen or sixteen percent of the outstanding shares.

12          Those shares are widely held. There was no  
13          testimony on this point, but I believe the record is clear  
14          that there are approximately 300,000 shareholders of the  
15          publicly traded equity interests. In light of that fact, I  
16          believe that it is relevant that the SEC has not taken a  
17          position on this motion. There were perhaps contrary  
18          representations made to the Court as to why the SEC had not  
19          done that, made by counsel to the U.S. Trustee on the one  
20          hand, saying that the SEC did not support the motion; and by  
21          counsel for Appaloosa, saying the SEC did not support the  
22          motion, absent a showing, which it was not taking a position  
23          on -- that is, that the SEC was not taking a position on,  
24          with regard to whether the debtors at this point are  
25          insolvent.

1 This is an important motion because it affects the  
2 cost of this case, both directly--that is, the cost of an  
3 equity committee and its professionals if I grant the motion--  
4 -as well as indirectly, in connection with both the cost of  
5 the estate and other estate-compensated professionals,  
6 including the Creditors' Committee, in dealing with  
7 litigation and other matters raised by an equity committee;  
8 and then, in addition, also indirectly, in respect of  
9 potential delay that the existence of an equity committee  
10 might cause at various stages in the case.

11 Because of its importance, and because of the desire  
12 by all parties, at least as initially expressed by all  
13 parties, including Appaloosa, to have this matter heard and  
14 decided by me quickly, so that if I rule in favor of an  
15 equity committee, an equity committee could be appointed  
16 quickly before passage of much more time in this case, I have  
17 decided to rule from the bench.

18 As I often do with long bench rulings, however,  
19 particularly where I cite extensive case law, I reserve the  
20 right to correct the ruling based on my review of the  
21 transcript.

22 This is a core proceeding under the Bankruptcy Code,  
23 as it deals with a committee's appointment under the Code.  
24 And one begins, as one must, with the statute, which provides  
25 at Section 1102(a)(2) that:



1 "On request of a party in interest, the Court may  
2 order the appointment of additional committees of  
3 creditors or of equity security-holders, if  
4 necessary to assure adequate representation of  
5 creditors or of equity security-holders. The United  
6 States Trustee shall appoint any such committee once  
7 the Court has ordered the appointment."

8 It's well recognized that there is no statutory test  
9 for "adequacy of representation," as used in Section  
10 1102(a)(2). See, for example, In Re: Johns Manville  
11 Corporation, 68 B.R. 155 (SDNY 1986), appeal dismissed 824  
12 F.2d 176 (2d Cir. 1987).

13 In light of the absence of a statutory definition of  
14 "adequacy of representation," and in light further of the  
15 fact that the statute says the Court "may" order the  
16 appointment of an additional committee besides the Official  
17 Creditors' Committee, the courts have made such  
18 determinations on a case-by-case basis in the exercise of the  
19 Bankruptcy Court's discretion. See, again, In Re: Johns  
20 Manville, 68 B.R. 155, as well as In Re: Becker Industries  
21 Corporation, 55 B.R. 945, 948, (Bankruptcy, SDNY 1985), for  
22 lists of the factors that the courts have employed in  
23 exercising their discretion on a case-by-case basis.

24 I should further note that the case law is clear  
25 that the burden of showing a lack of adequacy of

1 representation is upon the movant. Again, see In Re: Johns  
2 Manville Corporation, 68 B.R. 155.

3 The factors that the Court is to consider on a case-  
4 by-case basis are, by this time, fairly well established,  
5 although I should say first and foremost, again, they are  
6 merely factors informing the Court's discretion. It is not a  
7 litmus test, and no particular factor's absence precludes the  
8 appointment of a committee; and, conversely, although if all  
9 the factors were present, one would assume a committee would  
10 be appointed, the Court still has discretion under the  
11 statute, in light of other factors that might be present and  
12 relevant, not to appoint a committee. The case law has in  
13 large measure developed out of cases decided in the Southern  
14 District of New York, but the factors are employed throughout  
15 the country. They are laid out in the Becker Industries  
16 case, and in the Johns Manville case that I have cited.  
17 They're also discussed in, for example, In Re: Kalvar  
18 Microfilm, Inc., 195 B.R. 599 (Bankruptcy, District Court of  
19 Delaware 1996), and numerous other cases throughout the  
20 country. They include:

21 Whether the shares are widely held and publicly  
22 traded.

23 The size and complexity of the Chapter 11 case.

24 The delay and additional cost that would result if  
25 the Court grants the motion.

1 The likelihood of whether the debtors are insolvent.

2 The timing of the motion relative to the status of  
3 the Chapter 11 case.

4 And other factors relevant to the issue of adequate  
5 representation, including:

6 The role of the board and management acting on  
7 behalf of shareholders.

8 The role of other estate-compensated parties,  
9 including the Official Creditors' Committee, and whether they  
10 can be said in large measure to be acting on behalf of  
11 shareholders, at least insofar as maximizing the value of the  
12 estate.

13 And according to some courts, the sophistication of  
14 the shareholders, particularly those who have made the  
15 motion, and their ability to retain counsel and other  
16 advisors.

17 And according to some courts, the right of such  
18 parties, if they do make a substantial contribution in the  
19 case, to be compensated under Section 503(b) of the  
20 Bankruptcy Code.

21 Before discussing those factors in more detail,  
22 however, and particularly focusing upon the factor dealing  
23 with the debtors' financial condition, which has occupied a  
24 great deal of the hearing in front of me, I believe it's  
25 relevant and significant also to quote the legislative

1 history of Section 1102(a)(2), because, given the lack of a  
2 statutory definition of "adequacy of representation," I  
3 believe congressional intent is relevant.

4 The relevant legislative history on the section is  
5 not only quoted, but astutely critiqued in Johns Manville at  
6 68 B.R. 155 at 160. As noted in that case, one of the  
7 purposes of the legislation was, quote:

8 "-- to counteract the natural tendency of a debtor  
9 in distress to pacify large creditors with whom the  
10 debtor would expect to do business at the expense of  
11 small and scattered public investors."

12 That's from S. Rep. No. 989, 95th Congress, Second  
13 Session at 10 (1978).

14 The Congressional Report went on to state:

15 "The committee believes that it should be emphasized  
16 that investor protection is most critical when the  
17 company in which the public invested is in financial  
18 difficulties and is forced to seek relief under the  
19 bankruptcy laws. A fair and equitable  
20 reorganization as provided in the bill is literally  
21 the last clear chance to conserve for them values  
22 that corporate financial stress or insolvency have  
23 placed in jeopardy. As public investors are likely  
24 to be junior or subordinated creditors or debt-  
25 holders, it is essential for them to have

1 legislative assurance that their interests will be  
2 protected. Such assurance should not be left to a  
3 plan negotiated by a debtor in distress and senior  
4 or institutional debtors who will have their own  
5 best interests to look after." Id.

6 The Court in Manville noted, however, that because  
7 Congress made the appointment discretionary in the Bankruptcy  
8 Court, finding that the Court "may" appoint a committee if  
9 necessary to assure adequate representation, it obviously did  
10 not take this principle beyond the meaning of the statute.

11 I believe there has been a development in the case  
12 law since the Congressional Report was issued, and, frankly,  
13 since the Becker Industries case, which was one of the first  
14 cases to deal with the appointment of a committee under  
15 1102(a)(2), although starting, frankly, with an earlier case,  
16 Judge Beatty's case in Emons Industries.

17 The Courts have recognized that even where a Chapter  
18 11 case involves a substantial number of public shareholders  
19 and is large and complex, the Court should not appoint an  
20 equity committee if the debtor appears to be clearly  
21 insolvent. That is because, in the words of Judge Beatty in  
22 Emons, which appears at 50 B.R. 692 (Bankruptcy SDNY 1985):  
23 to do so would, in effect, give the equity committee and the  
24 shareholders a gift. And that is because the cost of the  
25 committee is borne by the estate.

1 And if it appears, in the words of Emons, that  
2 the debtor is hopelessly insolvent, that cost should not be  
3 borne.

4 Courts, I believe, because of their experience of  
5 cases where equity committees were formed, where equity  
6 committees were inordinately litigious and active in such  
7 cases and ultimately obtained for their constituents what  
8 might charitably be described as a gift, that is, an  
9 inducement to go away through a plan, have come to emphasize  
10 the point. It's discussed in some detail and with some  
11 candor in the Wang Laboratories decision by Judge Hillman at  
12 149 B.R. 1 (Bankruptcy, District of Massachusetts 1992), in  
13 which Judge Hillman recognized the need not to legitimize  
14 what he called the, quote, "blackmail factor" inherent in the  
15 presence of an equity committee where, in fact, it appears  
16 that the debtor is hopelessly insolvent.

17 The Bankruptcy Code gives parties in interest  
18 considerable access to the Court and considerable issues to  
19 raise, if they choose, in front of the Court, which obviously  
20 has the effect potentially of delaying the prosecution of a  
21 Chapter 11 case and causing other parties to incur  
22 substantial costs. The benefit to a litigant of controlling  
23 an equity committee, or any other official committee, is  
24 that, subject of course to Court review, the cost of such  
25 litigation is borne by the estate, which raises the stakes

1 and makes it tempting to implement the "blackmail factor"  
2 strategy.

3 I believe these are legitimate concerns in this area  
4 and they have been recognized by numerous courts, and  
5 specifically, in what I believe today to be the leading  
6 decision in this area, they were recognized by Judge Lifland  
7 in In Re: Williams Communications Group, Inc., 281 B.R. 216  
8 (Bankruptcy SDNY 2002), in which he repeated Judge Beatty's  
9 concern that an equity committee where the debtor appears to  
10 be hopelessly insolvent should not be warranted because, this  
11 is a quote:

12 "-- because neither the debtor nor the creditor  
13 should have to bear the expense of negotiating over  
14 the terms of what is in essence a gift."

15 Judge Lifland used in that quote Judge Beatty's  
16 phrase, "appears to be hopelessly insolvent." He also used  
17 it at Page 222 -- I'm sorry, at 221 of his opinion.

18 Interestingly, in his conclusion, however, he  
19 provides for a somewhat different test than "hopelessly  
20 insolvent." He states:

21 "The appointment of official equity committees  
22 should be the rare exception. Such committees  
23 should not be appointed unless equityholders  
24 establish that (i) there is a substantial likelihood  
25 that they will receive a meaningful distribution in

1 the case under a strict application of the absolute  
2 priority rule, and (ii) they are unable to represent  
3 their interests in the bankruptcy case without an  
4 official committee." Id. at 223.

5 That is, as to the first prong of his test, it  
6 requires more of the movant for an official equity committee  
7 to establish than that there are signs of hope of solvency,  
8 at least in the general run of such applications.

9 That formulation has since been picked up by another  
10 court. Judge Case, whom I certainly respect as a very astute  
11 scholar of bankruptcy law, applied the same test in In Re:  
12 Northwestern Corporation, 2004 Westlaw 1077913 (Bankruptcy,  
13 District of Delaware, May 13, 2004).

14 Now I say that without necessarily accepting it as  
15 an ironclad test myself because I believe that all of the  
16 courts that look at these issues, including Judge Lifland and  
17 Judge Case, would say first and foremost that the various  
18 factors enunciated by the Courts are to be applied on a case-  
19 by-case basis, in light of the statute and the congressional  
20 policy. And that's what I have done in my balancing analysis  
21 of all of the factors; that is, I have not imposed upon the  
22 movant here the burden of showing "a substantial likelihood  
23 that it will receive a meaningful distribution in the case."

24 I do that because this motion is filed early in the  
25 case, as opposed to at the time a plan is to be negotiated



1 and/or litigated at confirmation. And I believe that it is,  
2 as a result, important for me to give the benefit of the  
3 doubt to the movants here.

4 As the debtors have acknowledged candidly, it is too  
5 early to formulate a business plan. It is, consequently, too  
6 early to formulate a going concern valuation with any  
7 credibility; and, finally, it is too early to negotiate a  
8 chapter 11 plan. Consequently, all of the analysis of  
9 solvency or insolvency here has around it a substantial  
10 amount of speculation and doubt. And I believe it would be  
11 unfair to impose upon a movant in that context the burden of  
12 doing a full-scale going-concern valuation to show a  
13 "substantial likelihood of a meaningful distribution."

14 Moreover, I believe that such a full-blown valuation  
15 at this time is not what is called for in connection with a  
16 motion for the appointment of an equity committee. As Judge  
17 Lifland made quite clear in Williams, this is a summary  
18 proceeding. The valuation that the Court performs in  
19 connection with the proceeding is not binding in any respect  
20 on any party with respect to any future valuation of the  
21 debtor or its assets, including, most importantly of course,  
22 a valuation for chapter 11 plan confirmation purposes.

23 There's an obvious reason for that. It's tied into  
24 both the strengths of Congressional policy in permitting  
25 equity committees to be appointed under the proper

1 circumstances as well as the potential for abuse of that  
2 right; that is, on the one hand, it's unfair to impose the  
3 burden of a full-scale valuation on public shareholders in  
4 all circumstances, although the burden may be increased in  
5 certain circumstances. It is also unfair to the debtor and  
6 the other parties whose money is very clearly at risk in the  
7 bankruptcy case, namely the creditors, and in this case the  
8 workers, of, in essence, causing the motion for the  
9 appointment of an equity committee to take over the entire  
10 case so that under the rubric of "valuation" the movant for an  
11 equity committee can use all of the cost and delay leverage  
12 that an equity committee might have even before the equity  
13 committee is appointed, to engage the parties in litigation  
14 on the merits of the key issues in the case.

15 That would be an absurd result. I believe, frankly,  
16 that's why I was so angry at Appaloosa's attempt repeatedly  
17 to turn this matter into such a proceeding and why the case  
18 law is crystal-clear that that is not what the Court is to  
19 consider.

20 Now let me -- before that, let me note that although  
21 Judge Lifland makes that crystal-clear in his opinion, he's  
22 not the only judge to have done so. In fact, Judge Case in  
23 Northwestern didn't have an evidentiary hearing at all. He  
24 did not believe it was appropriate. The Court in Leap  
25 Wireless, 295 B.R. 135 (Bankr. S.D. Cal. 2003) was frustrated

1 as to the lack of substance behind the debtors' schedules,  
2 but, again, only treated the matter as a summary proceeding  
3 and took whatever evidence she had and weighed that into her  
4 analysis with respect to whether a committee should be  
5 appointed.

6 So I believe, both logically and under the case law,  
7 there is no basis to expand the inquiry that I need to  
8 undertake here to force parties to conduct full-blown  
9 valuations on either side of the solvency issue.

10 Now, to apply the various factors. As I noted  
11 before, this is a large public company. There's over 500  
12 million of issued and outstanding common shares and over  
13 300,000 public shareholders. This is obviously also a large  
14 and complex bankruptcy case. The docket is already  
15 substantial, and it is clear to me that far more than is  
16 reflected in the docket is being done by the debtor and other  
17 parties behind the scenes in respect to resolving the key  
18 issues in this case.

19 Those issues are complex, both in terms of the  
20 negotiating and human dynamics, as well as the qualitative  
21 and quantitative analysis in regard to the underlying  
22 documentation, the parties' rights under the Bankruptcy Code  
23 and other law, including labor law and ERISA; and they  
24 ultimately involve numerous important judgment calls that in  
25 the first instance the debtor must make in consultation with

1 key constituencies in the case, and that ultimately I must  
2 make when the debtor goes to seek approval of what it has  
3 negotiated. So those factors clearly call for the  
4 appointment of an equity committee.

5 It is also argued that the debtors' management and  
6 board is not actually representing the interests of the  
7 shareholders as well as those of all of the other  
8 constituencies for which they are fiduciaries; and, to some  
9 extent, it is argued that they cannot represent those  
10 interests.

11 As to the latter point, to the extent it's made, I  
12 do not accept that analysis. Clearly, the board of a public  
13 company and its management owes a duty in a bankruptcy case  
14 not only to the creditors, assuming that the debtor is  
15 insolvent, but also to the shareholders. And there is no  
16 built-in bias there against shareholders. As noted by Judge  
17 Robinson in Edison Brothers Stores, 1996 Westlaw 534, 853  
18 (District Court of Delaware, 1996), a movant needs to show  
19 more than simply speculation as to such a conflict.

20 It's additionally argued that the very fact of the  
21 complexity of this case and the debtors' natural desire to  
22 resolve the case may lead the debtor to give short shrift to  
23 shareholders' views. That, I believe, has some merit to it;  
24 and, frankly, the argument is, I believe, consistent with the  
25 legislative history that I quoted earlier.